

**WILLIAMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
2005 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WORK SESSION #15  
Monday, August 24, 2004**

A work session of the Williamsburg Planning Commission was held on Monday, August 24, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., in Conference Room 3A, Williamsburg Municipal Building, 401 Lafayette Street.

**ATTENDANCE AND CALL TO ORDER**

Present were Commissioners Young, Pons, Friend, Hertzler, McBeth and Rose. Absent was Commissioners Smith. Also present were Planning Director Nester, Zoning Administrator Murphy and Assistant City Manager Miller.

Mr. Young called the meeting to order.

**OPEN FORUM**

No one spoke in the open forum.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

Mr. Young announced that this was a joint work session with the Industrial Development Authority, and the members of the IDA introduced themselves: Oscar Prater, Bill Ellis, John Tarley, Jesse Tarleton, and Marianne Jelinek.

Mr. Nester provided an overview of major issues for the commercial areas and economic development. The commercial and economic development land use map was reviewed, and specific areas with potential for development and redevelopment were identified. Mr. Nester also reviewed maps addressing residential densities and Bed & Breakfast locations.

The following ideas and concerns were discussed:

- Better understanding of IDA charter
- "Who is Williamsburg- explore this idea"
- Retirees are not in current plan and need to be considered for the update.
- Diversification of local economy – we need to be a viable business and economic development community.
- Guidance from Planning Commission on what is useful to city and what requests IDA should consider supporting.
- IDA could help with needed research on what customers want, how to get them to Williamsburg, and how do we keep them for multiple nights.

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- 2007 presents a large opportunity for conferences because of the yearlong commemoration.
- Interest in developing businesses related to geriatric research in order to help keep older people in place was discussed.
- A William and Mary student research project on the city economic strengths and weakness was suggested.
- Recognition that needs of full-time residents should be addressed, especially in terms of serving day to day needs.
- Attractiveness of area for retirees has economic development implications, especially in the areas of health and well-being.

Planning Commission and IDA members thought the meeting was useful and expressed a desire to continue to have joint meetings.

## **OPEN FORUM**

Bob Tubbs, Cedars Bed & Breakfast, 616 Jamestown Road suggested others need to be at the table (college, students, military, etc). Mr. Young noted that work sessions with several of the suggested stakeholders have already taken place.

John Keane, The Williamsburg White House, 718 Jamestown Road, mentioned the Nicholson report on tourism in the Historic Triangle, which noted that our area is not doing as well as the rest of the state and the nation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Jesse Young, Chairman  
Williamsburg Planning Commission